

RIDE Adult Education Bidder's Conference
CCRI Newport Campus
February 5, 2007
Questions and Answers

Q1) What does the net impact study involve?

A1) This study will be a rigorous net impact evaluation that will last up to 36 months. The intent is to find out if Adult Education really makes a difference. This will be a study where RIDE will pay in full for the services and for costs associated with the research. An important consideration is that the Office of Adult Education in conjunction with the Principal Investigator and the agency chosen for the study will determine the process for selecting participants and assigning them to services. There are likely to be specific additional data requirements for this study including social security number.

Q2) If a program is serving a special needs population with less than 50 participants, will their proposal be considered?

A2) Yes, but as indicated before priority consideration will be given to agencies that have capacity to serve at least 50 individuals per year for 120 hours.

Q3) Is the \$7 – \$10 million funding spread over three years or for one year?

A3) One year. However, all funding beyond year one is subject to availability of funds and (re-) authorization of applicable federal and state statutes.

Q4) Our program has a target population that holds a secondary credential from another country. One of our offered programs is to prepare this population to get a credential in the United States. Does the definition of eligible adult prohibit us from applying under this call for investment proposals?

A4) No.

Q6) If a current Even Start Program wants to apply under this proposal, is it required that the program respond to the strict Even Start funding regulations?

A6) Yes, if the program is applying specifically for an Even Start program. No, if it applies for a family literacy program.

Q7) Is the youth initiative open to those applicants that have submitted proposals to the workforce investment board or those who have been accepted to be a vendor?

A7) To Both.

Q8) What does the term recruited mean?

A8) Recruitment refers to the activities needed to attract and enroll eligible students into the program.

Q9) If a program design allows a tutor pair to receive 1,000 hours of instruction per year, will the proposal be accepted?

A9) Each application will be taken under consideration regardless of the number of hours, but as indicated elsewhere priority consideration will be given to programs that speak to the minimum design features as discussed in the Call for Investment Proposals.

Q11) Is component A, a sum total of B,C,D?

A11) Yes

Q12) The overall amount requested under section A – cost breakdown (page 52). Would it be 90% or the 100%.

A12) It should be 90%.

Q13) How does the \$40,000 work into the 90%?

A13) You should view the \$40,000 base figure as part of the 90% budget figure for the proposal.

Q14.) Is the cost to produce/maintain qualified staff appropriate for the \$40,000?

A14.) To determine your budget, look at what a responsive program costs. Then, you add \$40,000 to this. 90% of that figure and this is your grant request.

Q15) Do you have to line item the \$40,000?

A15) Not separately but as applicable.

Q16) What do Tier 1,2,3 mean?

A16) The true cost work group developed a directive to support admin costs in relation to three tiers. Administrative costs of 5% require no justification (Tier 1). You can request up to 10% with a justification letter. If this is still not enough, you can request an additional amount through submission of an auditor allocation plan for your agency (Tier 3).

Q17) Has marketing/promotion of adult education been discussed at the state level, especially for the outlying areas?

A17) Local outreach is the agency's responsibility. There are no plans at this time for a statewide outreach effort due to limited resources and capacity.

Q18) Student hours – is that based on hours available or is that actual hours?

A18) These should be planned hours based on your design. Be realistic in your projections. Determine the intended student hours. The milestone chart may help you.

Q19) How do outcomes relate to the grant application for three years?

A19) Although the grant application is for three years, outcomes should be annualized.

Q20) Can you download the application and then upload to RIDE?

A20) We plan to make this option available in the future, but won't have it available now.

Q21) Will the state provide new staff orientation to new program staff?

A21) New staff orientation will be available through the Professional Development Center. These services will be available at no cost. Applicants should budget for paid release time to facilitate participation.

Q23) How do I state qualifications of staff?

A23) Supply key attributes of the staff directly related to the proposal. If the person has not been hired yet, state the qualifications of the person who will do the hiring.

Q24) Can we budget for summer 07 activity?

Q24) Yes.

Q25) During the review process, will each section B be reviewed on their own?

A24) No, the application will be reviewed in its entirety.

Q26) If we hire an instructor and we want to give them a raise, how do we work that into the budget, if it is annualized? If we take the higher amount into the budget, will we be penalized if we do not spend all the money?

A26.) The annual renewal and ongoing amendment process are likely to address this issue. For the purposes of this application, applicants can consider this issue as long as the annual budget for the three years in the same.

Q27) Start up costs will cost more, how do we work it into the budget.

A27) The budget should be consistent over all three years.

Q28) What is the unspoken expectation of start up?

A28) The start up expectation is up to three months.

Q29) Does every agency need to serve students between the ages of 16 – 18?

A29) Agency can make a justification for prioritizing.